

REMARKS:

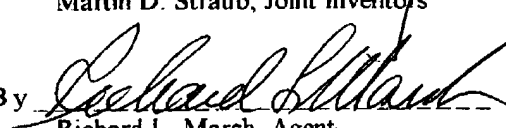
This amendment is for the purpose of electing one group of claims from among the three groups determined by the Examiner to be distinct though the Office Action did not specify claims numbers specific to each group. In a telephone interview with the Examiner on 23 October 2003, Applicants determined that Group I generally comprised claims 11 - 19, Group II generally comprised claims 1 - 3, 8, 20 and possibly 9 and 10 and Group III generally comprised claims 4 - 7. The Examiner holds that the Groups II and III claims are distinct as materially different printing apparatus is used as one step in the independent method claim 1 thus constituting different methods and Group I is distinct as the claim is directed to a method of making a laminated wrapping foil. Accordingly, Applicants elect Group II, claims 1 - 3, 8 - 10, 20 for prosecution in this application and make claims 15 - 19 readable upon the elected group in the chain depending from claim 1, cancel claims 4 - 7 in Group III and cancel claims 11 - 14 of Group I thus complying with the election requirement advanced by the Examiner based upon 35 U.S.C. 121. Additionally, Applicants add claims 21 - 28 readable upon elected Group II in the chain depending from claim 20.

Applicants have elected claims 1 - 3, 8 - 10 and 20 for prosecution in this application, canceled Group I claims 4 - 7 and Group III claims 11 - 14 without prejudice to Applicants' rights to file divisional applications on non-elected Groups I and III, retained claims 16 - 20 and amended claim 15 to comply with the restriction requirement of 35CFR121 as required by the Examiner's thereby placing this application in condition for allowance. Applicants have added claims 21 - 28 to present a total of 20 claims for examination. Thus, claims 1 - 3, 8 - 10, 15 - 28 remain in this application and Applicants respectfully request allowance thereof.

In view of the above, an Action on the merits of this application, as amended, and an allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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